



MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902

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Contact: Mike Donila Rylie McClurg
306-1177 cell 215-4579 office
705-1681 cell

Mayor Jacobs Talks About the Imagination Library, START Center, President Trump, Young-Williams Animal Center, and More

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— During his Weekly Update that will post around 2 p.m. today, Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs talks about Dolly Parton and the Imagination Library program, the START Center, the presidential inauguration of Donald Trump, and more.

The Knox County Public Library last Sunday hosted a party to celebrate Dolly Parton’s birthday and the 20-year partnership she and her program have with Knox County. Imagination Library sends a new, free book every month to children under the age of five. For Knox County, that’s 19,000 students getting a book every month, and since the program’s inception in 2005, our Library has mailed 4.1 million books to 100,000 children.

“All of it possible because of the generosity and vision of Dolly Parton,” Mayor Jacobs says.

The START Center, or Skilled Trades Academy and Regional Training Center, welcomed eight Central High School seniors this semester under a new dual-enrollment program in partnership with the Associated Builders and Contractors of Greater Tennessee, TCAT Knoxville and Knox County Schools.

“This opportunity will provide these highly qualified students with multiple opportunities within the trades and is a testament to our commitment to preparing our students for successful careers,” adds Mayor Jacobs. “The education and hands-on experience they receive will prepare them for a promising future.”

The mayor also notes that Young-Williams Animal Center has sent an urgent request for people to become foster families for dogs in preparation for the arrival of pets displaced by the wildfires in Southern California. And, he talks about the inauguration of Donald Trump and how the 47th President of the United States has “exceeded even my most optimistic expectations, addressing the border and immigration crises, strengthening U.S. sovereignty, and righting some egregious injustices.”

Mayor Jacobs further discusses inflation and debt and how “President Trump literally needs to take a chainsaw to the federal budget,” since the country faces more than \$36 trillion in national debt.

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